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PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.**CALIFORNIA.**

The following report of plague-prevention work in California for the week ended October 14, 1916, was received from Passed Asst. Surg. Williams, of the United States Public Health Service, in temporary charge of the work:

FEDERAL AND COUNTY INSPECTION SERVICE.

[For the enforcement of the law of June 7, 1913.]

Counties.	Number inspected.	Number rein-spected.	Acres inspected.	Acres rein-spected.	Acres treated.		Holes treated.
					Waste balls.	Grain.	
Contra Costa.....	3	75	1,295	21,617	.....	3,800	.....
Alameda.....	.....	104	.....	28,456	.....	3,269	.....
Stanislaus.....	25	63	10,351	21,128	940	14,488	1,760
Santa Cruz.....	.....	9	.....	6,830	.....	803	.....
Merced.....	10	36	11,147	20,794	.....	20,359	.....
Monterey.....	18	24	9,460	18,974	.....	13,120	.....
San Benito.....	28	47	32,050	24,265	440	12,469	2,897
Santa Clara.....	30	15	10,572	9,501	.....	5,650	.....
San Mateo.....	4	4	3,015	645	.....	250	.....
Total.....	118	377	77,890	152,210	1,380	74,208	4,657

RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE.

Cities.	Collected.	Exam-ined.	Infected.
Oakland.....	40	40	None.
Richmond.....	22	22	None.
Antioch.....	8	8	None.
Total.....	70	70	None.

RECORD OF PLAGUE INFECTION.

Places in California.	Date of last case of human plague.	Date of last case of rat plague.	Date of last case squirrel plague.	Total number rodents found infected since May, 1907.
Cities:				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908	Oct. 23, 1908	(1)	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Aug. 9, 1911	Dec. 1, 1908	(1)	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 28, 1907	(1)	(1)	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908	(1)	Aug. 21, 1908	1 squirrel.
Counties:				
Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley).	Sept. 24, 1909	Oct. 17, 1909 ²	June 23, 1916	293 squirrels; 1 wood rat.
Contra Costa.....	July 13, 1915	(1)	June 28, 1916	1,629 squirrels.
Fresno.....	(1)	(1)	Oct. 27, 1911	1 squirrel.
Merced.....	(1)	(1)	May 12, 1916	7 squirrels.
Monterey.....	(1)	(1)	May 27, 1916	38 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 4, 1913	(1)	July 1, 1916	72 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	Sept. 18, 1911	(1)	Aug. 26, 1911	18 squirrels.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 31, 1910	(1)	June 21, 1916	32 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	(1)	(1)	Jan. 29, 1910	1 squirrel.
Santa Cruz.....	(1)	(1)	May 30, 1916	5 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	(1)	(1)	June 2, 1911	18 squirrels.
San Mateo.....	(1)	(1)	June 21, 1916	1 squirrel.

¹ None.² Wood rat.

The work is being carried on in the following-named counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Stanislaus, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Merced, Santa Clara, and San Mateo.

OPERATIONS ON THE WATER FRONT.

Number of vessels inspected for rat guards.....	26
Number of reinspections made on vessels.....	5
Number of new rat guards procured.....	12
Rats trapped on water front.....	49
Rats trapped on vessels.....	23
Number of traps set on wharves and water front.....	293
Number of traps set on vessels.....	75
Number of vessels trapped on.....	22
Poisons placed on water front (pieces).....	3,600
Bait used on water front and vessels, bacon (pounds).....	6
Amount of bread used in poisoning water front (loaves).....	12
Number of pounds of poison used on water front.....	4

The following is a record of municipal work performed under the supervision of the Public Health Service:

COOPERATIVE MUNICIPAL WORK.

Number of premises inspected.....	606
Number of nuisances abated.....	89

COOPERATIVE MUNICIPAL WORK—continued.

Number of rats trapped.....	72
Number of rats examined.....	67
Number of poisons placed.....	12,300
Number of garbage cans stamped approved.....	300
Rats identified:	
<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	31
<i>Mus rattus</i>	25
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	16

WORK DONE ON OLD BUILDINGS.

Wooden floors removed.....	14
Number of yards and passageways, planking removed.....	5
Cubic feet, new foundation walls installed.....	4,065
Concrete floors installed (square feet, 16,950).....	9
Number of basements concreted (square feet, 9,850).....	6
Yards and passageways, etc., concreted (square feet, 625).....	1
Total area concrete laid (square feet).....	27,425
Number floors rat proofed with wire cloth (square feet, 6,350).....	7
Buildings razed.....	8

LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following report of plague-eradication work at New Orleans for the week ended October 21, 1916, was received from Passed Asst. Surg. Simpson, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

OUTGOING QUARANTINE.

Number of vessels fumigated with sulphur.....	1
Number of vessels fumigated with cyanide gas.....	10
Pounds of sulphur used.....	120
Pounds of cyanide used in cyanide gas fumigation.....	546
Pints of sulphuric acid used in cyanide gas fumigation.....	834
Clean bills of health issued.....	23
Foul bills of health issued.....	5

FIELD OPERATIONS.

Number of rodents trapped.....	8,909
Number of premises inspected.....	5,551
Notices served.....	259
Number of garbage cans installed.....	2

BUILDINGS RAT PROOFED.

By elevation.....	85
By marginal concrete wall.....	78
By concrete floor and wall.....	96
By minor repairs.....	171
Total buildings rat proofed.....	430
Square yards of concrete laid.....	3,535
Number of premises, planking and shed flooring removed.....	40
Number of buildings demolished.....	76
Total buildings rat proofed to date (abated).....	129,505

LABORATORY OPERATIONS.

Rodents received by species:	
<i>Mus rattus</i>	212
<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	916

LABORATORY OPERATIONS—continued.

Rodents received by species—Continued.	
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	142
<i>Mus musculus</i>	7,292
Wood rats.....	77
Musk rats.....	7
Putrid.....	182
Total rodents received at laboratory.....	8,828
Rodents examined.....	1,657
Number of rats suspected of plague ¹	31
Plague rats confirmed.....	2

PLAGUE RATS.

Case No. 342: Found at Robin Street dock; captured Sept. 17, 1916; diagnosis confirmed Oct. 19, 1916.	
Case No. 343: Found on British steamship Eggsford; captured Sept. 22, 1916; diagnosis confirmed Oct. 20, 1916.	

PLAGUE STATUS TO OCT. 21, 1916.

Last case of human plague, Sept. 8, 1915.	
Last case of rodent plague, Sept. 22, 1916.	
Total number of rodents captured to Oct. 21.....	891,674
Total number of rodents examined to Oct. 21.....	390,349
Total cases of rodent plague to Oct. 21, by species:	
<i>Mus musculus</i>	6
<i>Mus rattus</i>	22
<i>Mus alexandrinus</i>	18
<i>Mus norvegicus</i>	297
Total rodent cases to Oct. 21, 1916.....	343

¹ Indicates the number of rodents the tissues of which were inoculated into guinea pigs. Most of them showed on necropsy only evidence of recent inflammatory process; practically none presented gross lesions characteristic of plague infection.

WASHINGTON—SEATTLE—PLAGUE ERADICATION.

The following report of plague-eradication work at Seattle for the week ended October 14, 1916, was received from Surg. Lloyd, of the United States Public Health Service, in charge of the work:

RAT PROOFING.		WATER FRONT—continued.	
New buildings reinspected.....	51	Sulphur used, pounds.....	800
Basements concreted, new buildings (square feet, 20,675).....	12	New rat guards installed.....	8
Floors concreted, new buildings (square feet, 10,875).....	6	Defective rat guards repaired.....	17
Yards, etc., concreted, new structures (square feet, 1,365).....	8	Fumigation certificates issued.....	1
Sidewalks concreted (square feet).....	7,270	Port sanitary statements issued.....	34
Total concrete laid, new structures (square feet).....	40,185	The usual day and night patrol was maintained to enforce rat guarding and fending.	
New buildings elevated.....	4	MISCELLANEOUS WORK.	
New premises rat proofed, concrete.....	18	Rat-proofing notices sent to contractors, new buildings.....	20
Old buildings inspected.....	3	Letters sent in re rat complaints.....	5
Premises rat proofed, concrete, old buildings.....	3	RODENTS EXAMINED IN EVERETT.	
Floors concreted, old buildings (square feet, 3,285).....	3	Mus norvegicus trapped.....	63
Wooden floors removed, old buildings.....	3	Mus norvegicus found dead.....	4
Buildings razed.....	4	Mus musculus trapped.....	3
LABORATORY AND RODENT OPERATIONS.		Total.....	75
Dead rodents received.....	35	Rodents examined for plague infection.....	69
Rodents trapped and killed.....	314	Rodents proved plague infected.....	0
Rodents recovered after fumigation.....	9	RAT-PROOFING OPERATIONS IN EVERETT.	
Total.....	358	New buildings inspected.....	2
Rodents examined for plague infection.....	260	New buildings reinspected.....	3
Rodents proven plague infected.....	None.	New buildings, floors concreted (square feet, 384).....	1
Poison distributed, pounds.....	13	New buildings, yards concreted (square feet, 420).....	1
Bodies examined for plague infection.....	3	Total concrete laid, new buildings (square feet).....	804
Bodies found plague infected.....	None.	RODENTS EXAMINED IN TACOMA.	
CLASSIFICATION OF RODENTS.		Mus norvegicus trapped.....	177
Mus rattus.....	35	Mus rattus trapped.....	1
Mus alexandrinus.....	96	Mus alexandrinus trapped.....	3
Mus norvegicus.....	164	Mus musculus trapped.....	3
Mus musculus.....	63	Total.....	184
WATER FRONT.		Rodents examined for plague infection.....	180
Vessels inspected and histories recorded.....	17	Rodents proved plague infected.....	0
Vessels fumigated.....	1		

HAWAII—PLAGUE PREVENTION.

Honolulu.

The following report of plague-prevention work at Honolulu was received from Surg. Trotter of the United States Public Health Service:

Total rats and mongoose taken.....	372	Classification of rats killed by sulphur dioxide:	
Rats trapped.....	353	Mus alexandrinus.....	5
Mongoose trapped.....	5	Mus rattus.....	9
Rats killed by sulphur dioxide.....	14	Average number of traps set daily.....	934
Examined microscopically.....	311	Cost per rat destroyed.....	21 cents.
Examined macroscopically.....	61	Last case rat plague Aiea, 9 miles from Honolulu, Apr. 12, 1910.	
Showing plague infection.....	None.	Last case human plague Honolulu, July 12, 1910.	
Classification of rats trapped:		Last case rat plague Paauhau, Hawaii, Jan. 18, 1916.	
Mus alexandrinus.....	155	Last case human plague Paauhau Plantation, Hawaii, Dec. 16, 1915.	
Mus musculus.....	115		
Mus norvegicus.....	55		
Mus rattus.....	28		